

Message Text

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SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: ANTARCTIC RESEARCH

FOR SCIATT

1. FOLLOWING IS FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION AND NO RPT NO ACTION REQUIRED AT THIS TIME.

2. DR. JOSEPH E. FLETCHER, HEAD, OFFICE OF POLAR PROGRAMS, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF), ON AUGUST 23 CABLED DR. A.F. TRESHNIKOV, DIRECTOR OF ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN LENINGRAD, TO PROPOSE THAT THREE-MAN USDEL IN ANTARCTIC RESEARCH VISIT USSR FOR FIRST 7-10 DAYS OF OCTOBER. EXCHANGE IS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION IIIB, PARA 10 OF 1970-71 EXCHANGES AGREEMENT AND WOULD BE IN RETURN FOR SOVIET VISIT TO US IN JULY 1972.

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2. NSF IS AWARE THAT TRESHNIKOV AND MANY SOVIET ANTARCTIC OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN DEEPLY INVOLVED IN RESCUE OF SOVIET RESEARCH SHIP OB, WHICH WAS STUCK IN ICE OF ANTARCTIC. FLETCHER THEREFORE FIRST PREFERRED AN INFORMAL APPROACH TO TRESHNIKOV TO DETERMINE IF VISIT TIMING WAS CONVENIENT, BEFORE SUBMITTING A FORMAL REQUEST THROUGH STATE/EMBASSY/ SCST CHANNELS.

3. DR. CHARLES R. BENTLEY, PROFESSOR OF GEOPHYSICS, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, AND MR. PHILLIP M. SMITH, DEPUTY HEAD, OFFICE OF POLAR PROGRAMS, NSF, ARE SCHEDULED TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL ANTARCTIC GLACIOLOGICAL PROJECT COUNCIL (AUSTRALIA, FRANCE, UK, USSR AND US) AT ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE, LENINGRAD, SEPTEMBER 26-30. NSF HAS PROPOSED TO TRESHNIKOV THAT EXCHANGE PROGRAM VISIT TAKE PLACE FOR 7-10 DAYS AFTER CONCLUSION OF INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING IN LENINGRAD. IF EXCHANGE VISIT IS ACCEPTABLE TO SOVIETS, TWO ADDITIONAL US EXPERTS, MR. GUY G. GUTHRIDGE, DIRECTOR, POLAR INFORMATION SERVICE, NSF, AND DR. H. JAY ZWALLY, PROGRAM MANAGER, ADVANCED SYSTEMS APPLICATIONS AND GLACIOLOGY, OPP, NSF, WOULD BE ADDED TO US DELEGATION AT LENINGRAD COUNCIL MEETING. THEN SMITH, ZWALLY, AND GUTHRIDGE WOULD REMAIN FOR EXCHANGE VISIT. WHILE NSF PREFERS OCTOBER VISIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH LENINGRAD MEETING, DELEGATION WOULD BE WILLING TO DELAY VISIT TO LATER TIME.

4. NSF HAS PROPOSED THAT US PROGRAM INCLUDE VISITS TO THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS IN MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD:

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OF HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICE, MOSCOW; HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CENTER AND MAIN GEOPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY, MOSCOW; CENTRAL AEROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY, GUGMS, MOSCOW; SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR TERRESTRIAL MAGNETISM, IONOSPHERE, AND RADIO WAVE PROPOGATION OF THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (IZMIRAN), MOSCOW; AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF ARCTIC GEOLOGY, LENINGRAD.

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5. DEPT. WILL INFORM EMBASSY AS SOON AS NSF RECEIVES RESPONSE FROM TRESHNIKOV AND MAY REQUEST EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IF RESPONSE IS NOT FORTHCOMING IN REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME. ROGERS

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